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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1908.

JOSEPH BRIAN,
Born August 12, 1845,
Died November 20, 1908.

PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS.

It is, of course, true enough that the class known as "consumers" and the class known as "producers" overlap each other to an appreciable extent. The same man is found in innumerable instances. In both classes he is a producer in one relation, a consumer in another. But to argue from this, as some of the Times-Dispatch's contemporaries are doing, that the two classes are more or less identical, is to reveal a very superficial understanding of the situation.

Every producer, in this or any other country, is a consumer as every human being is a consumer. But every consumer is not a producer by a very long way indeed. The professional classes are not producers. The commodities they have to sell cannot be appraised by the pound or taxed by the yard. Salespeople are not producers. Whether merchants buy cheap or dear, they demand a fixed percentage of profit, and the salaries of their employees are not constantly readjusted on the basis of the differentials. Clerks are not producers. Neither are real estate dealers, bankers, and very many other classes whose business it is to handle wealth already created. Perhaps half the people in this country, perhaps more, are not immediately concerned with production in any way, or are concerned so indirectly that the desires of the producers cannot affect their own far more compelling desires as consumers.

Therefore it is species or ignorant to suggest that the interests of those two classes are so involved as to rest on a basis of compromise, that each man in his capacity as a consumer is willing to be taxed, in order that, in his capacity as a producer, we may similarly tax the rest of the world. Vast numbers of our population have no capacity as producers whatever. In political economy and tariff legislation, these are consumers, and consumers only. Their interests, so far from being similar to those of the producer, are diametrically opposed to them, and they decidedly resent his princial enrichment at their expense.

TO-DAY.

The campaign for funds to build a Great Woman's College here in Richmond closes to-day. Those who have intended to contribute to this fund, but have deferred doing so, must act to-day. Those who have given the matter no thought, or who have decided that this was no affair to touch pocketbook of theirs, have only to-day to reflect whether either of these positions correctly represents their attitude toward such a movement.

Every consideration of public spirit, of civic spirit, of enterprise and of commerce urges that this proposal be successfully put through. Beyond any question of tangible results, and more than any, the city's pride in her name for progress, for ambition, for intelligent business adventure, is here on trial. To fail in this is more than to lose an institution which would be in every way a genuine acquisition to the life of Richmond. It would be to lose confidence in ourselves, to lose faith in the spirit and responsiveness in our city. The effect of it upon future enterprise for a long time to come would inevitably be most depressing.

HOW STANDARD OIL GOT ITS CLUB.

You know that it is another provision of that agreement that the railroad company, in consideration of your payment of a minimum of shipments per annum and of arranging your business to maintain these shipments between the railroads, agreed to pay you 10 per cent of the rate on the oil you shipped and controlled. Now will you tell us the reasons for that contract?

We rendered ample service for it. We did for them what they could not do for themselves. We did it to our own disadvantage at times—often times.

Thus began, on first-hand authority, the long story of furtive rebating which was to make one of the parties to the agreement the most powerful commercial institution in the world.

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Doubtless Emperor William is wondering whether his "divine" right of kings could possibly have emanated from the other place, after all.

"Frazzle" was a good word long before Theodore Roosevelt was born, and will remain so long after he has gone to Africa.

In memory of old times, Mr. Taft certainly ought to put a few good drummers in his Cabinet.

May our grandchildren will know what it is to have a Congress that does not belong to Joseph G. Cannon.

The 1908 turkeys of Old Virginia have far plumper and whiter chestnut than those we have noticed elsewhere.

Mollycoddled football still has the punch.

Circumstances may yet make warm friends of Heile and Boni.

The grandson of a King back into States now a hermit, not yet public Dispatch.

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ing fifteen times the old profits within a year after they had fallen under the magic touch of Rockefeller, Andrews and Finkler. Dazzled avarice could not have been long in losing sight of any initial idea of tendering kindly assistance to the railroads.

Rockefeller on the witness stand is a gentle, discursive old man, with a quaint moral blind-spot, an apparently inexhaustible memory and a transcendent pride in his own. In the practice of his old age, he reveals little of the strong, sure, merciless mind that built up a gigantic trust out of nothing by buccaneer methods. His story, read now in retrospect, is immensely interesting. Where else in the world's history have such tremendous results grown out of \$1,000, half of which was borrowed on no security?

ALDRICH, STUDENT OF BANKING.

Hon. Nelson W. Aldrich, designated chairman of the National Monetary Commission, will have general direction in the Congress of the question of currency reform. Preparatory to his legislative endeavors, he has been touring Europe to acquire technical knowledge of this subject. Europe being a well-diversified country and Senator Aldrich having considerable to acquire. Now he has returned to his own country once more, and in a frame of mind which augurs hopefully. He has informed the Merchants' Association of New York that he has learned various things about currency which he did not know before, and that he has discarded "many opinions on the subject which until recently he held tenaciously."

This, at least, is well. The more the chief of the Monetary Commission on cards currency opinions previously held by him, the more will he be in position to get a sound grip upon the important subject. The more Hon. Nelson W. Aldrich learns about banking, the more will a hitherto aching void be filled.

BURKE'S POLITICAL WISDOM.

In this day of shallow opportunism and undisguised demagoguery it is peculiarly refreshing to turn to the philosophy of Edmund Burke, the greatest political thinker that the English race has produced. To him the laws of statesmanship and government were as immutable and as stable as the laws of gravitation or light. It was this comprehensive view of political principle that gave to Burke's philosophy that scope and universality which distinguished it from the haphazard fumbling of his colleagues and successors. Like Jefferson and Mason, Burke had gained his clearness of perception and fixity of belief by early meditation. Like all who have impressed their ideas on the world, he first impressed them on himself. How nearly he approached the truth which his most illustrious compatriots, Pitt and Fox, for example, either failed to perceive or only dimly expressed, is best shown by phrases of his which are now part of the current literature of the English tongue.

When Fox spoke the halls of Parliament were crowded; when Burke rose as one said, "the dinner-bell rang for the House of Commons." But in all of Fox's orations and Pitt's debates are found no such sayings as Burke's, "Men of light and leading": "superlatives in the religion of feeble minds"; "I do not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people"; "so to be patriots as not to forget we are gentlemen"—these are some of the magic phrases that have become part and parcel of the political maxims of English-speaking peoples. Not in phrase alone was Burke great, for having, as Macaulay said, "chosen the Whig party like a fanatic" he yet defended it with such profound philosophy that without his guidance his party was lost.

It was doubtless these considerations and the fact that in his old age, as Windham said of him, "men came to consult him as they would the oracles of God," that led Ambassador Reid to say in a recent address that Burke was a greater man than Nelson, Wolfe, Clive, either of the Pitts, Goldsmith or Johnson. Commenting on this comparison between men of letters and men of action, the London Spectator says: "Mr. Reid remarked incidentally in his most interesting address that he had never been able to understand precisely the criticism which represented Burke as having done the same service to politics that Shakespeare did to literature." But to the spectator it seemed that the criticism was both intelligible and just in that Burke threw the same kind of illumination on political thought that Shakespeare threw on the lives and hearts of men and women. For that is really the great truth about Burke—he created, or rather creatively marshaled, a vast political philosophy which was a standard measure for testing the value and propriety of every conceivable project.

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Rhymes for To-Day.

THERE'S ALWAYS A BRIGHT SIDE.

WHENAS I sit here at my task
And grind the long, dull hours
away,

I'm apt to sob a bit and ask:

"Why should I keep Thanksgiving
Day?"

Is not my life all drab and sad?

Have I large balances at banks?

Why should I feign that I am glad?

Why should I lie and offer thanks?

The tears come fast and blind my eyes
I snuff quite a while and muse;

The birth of my son last week who
Was born in London, and who, I suppose,

Was on the point of being recognized

as a full-fledged prince of the blood;

In the line of succession to the throne

of Baden. But the somewhat tardy

recognition of Prince Maximilian,

son of William and nephew of the late

Emperor William, provided for the suc-

cession to the crown of Baden and com-

plete the inheritance of the oyster

empire, too.

But, should anything untoward happen

to the infant son of Prince Maximilian,

now the heir-apparent, the former

project would undoubtedly be put into

execution, and the new prince would be

the second heir to the throne of the

grand duchy of Baden.

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The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenoy

The Baby Duke de Chauvins.

OME alteration has taken place in the status of the young Duchess de Chauvins through the birth of her son last week, who, it is believed, will be a full-fledged prince of the blood.

The Duke de Chauvins, the husband of the duchess, is a full-blooded prince of the blood.

Prince William, son of the late

Emperor William and nephew of the late

Emperor William, was a full-blooded

prince of the blood.

He is the son of the late

Emperor William and the late

Emperor William, son of the late

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